Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-15 **(Canceled)**

Claim 16 **(Currently Amended)** A method of setting an audio output level comprising:

storing a plurality of thresholds associated with clock time information preliminarily;

selecting one of the plurality of thresholds corresponding to a current clock time; ~~and~~

requesting an acknowledgement that a setting of the audio output level is to be changed, if the setting of the audio output level is to be changed to a setting that exceeds the selected threshold; and

allocating a function of replying to the acknowledgement to an operation button provided on at least one of a remote control unit and a main unit for a certain period of time immediately after requesting the acknowledgment.

Claim 17 **(Currently Amended)** A method of setting an audio output level comprising:

storing a plurality of thresholds associated with audio output device information preliminarily;

selecting one of the plurality of thresholds corresponding to a currently connected audio output device; ~~and~~

requesting an acknowledgement that a setting of the audio output level is to be changed, if the setting of the audio output level is to be changed to a setting that exceeds the selected threshold; and

allocating a function of replying to the acknowledgement to an operation button provided on at least one of a remote control unit and a main unit for a certain period of time immediately after requesting the acknowledgment.

Claim 18 **(Previously Presented)** The method of setting an audio output level as recited in claim 16,

wherein each of the plurality of thresholds includes at least one of an upper limit and a lower limit.

Claims 19 and 20 **(Canceled)**

Claim 21 **(Currently Amended)** A device for setting an audio output level, the device comprising:

a storage unit operable to store a plurality of thresholds associated with clock time information preliminarily;

a selecting unit operable to select one of the plurality of thresholds corresponding to a current clock time; ~~and~~

a requesting unit operable to request an acknowledgement that a setting of the audio output level is to be changed, if the setting of the audio output level is to be changed to a setting that exceeds the selected threshold; and

an allocating unit operable to allocate a function of replying to the acknowledgement to an operation button provided on at least one of a remote control unit and a main unit for a certain period of time immediately after requesting the acknowledgment.

Claim 22 **(Previously Presented)** The device for setting an audio output level as recited in claim 21, further comprising:

a changing unit operable to change the setting of the audio output level only if the acknowledgement is given that the setting is to be changed.

Claim 23 **(Currently Amended)** A device for setting an audio output level, the device comprising:

a storage unit operable to store a plurality of thresholds associated with audio output device information preliminarily;

a selecting unit operable to select one of the plurality of thresholds corresponding to a currently connected audio output device; ~~and~~

a requesting unit operable to request an acknowledgement that a setting of the audio output level is to be changed, if the setting of the audio output level is to be changed to a setting that exceeds the selected threshold; and

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an allocating unit operable to allocate a function of replying to the acknowledgement to an operation button provided on at least one of a remote control unit and a main unit for a certain period of time immediately after requesting the acknowledgment.

Claim 24 **(Previously Presented)** The device for setting an audio output level as recited in claim 23, further comprising:

a changing unit operable to change the setting of the audio output level if the acknowledgement is given that the setting is to be changed.

Claim 25 **(Previously Presented)** The method of setting an audio output level as recited in claim 16, further comprising:

changing the setting of the audio output level only if the acknowledgement is given that the setting is to be changed.

Claim 26 **(Previously Presented)** The method of setting an audio output level as in recited claim 16, further comprising:

changing the setting of the audio output level only if an acknowledgement is given that the setting is to be changed within a given time after the requesting of the acknowledgement.

Claim 27 **(Previously Presented)** The method of setting an audio output level as recited in claim 17, further comprising:

changing the setting of the audio output level only if the acknowledgement is given that the setting is to be changed.

Claim 28 **(Previously Presented)** The method of setting an audio output level as recited in claim 17, further comprising:

changing the setting of the audio output level only if an acknowledgement is given that the setting is to be changed within a given time after the requesting of the acknowledgement.

Claim 29 **(Previously Presented)** The method of setting an audio output level as recited in claim 17,

wherein each of the plurality of thresholds includes at least one of an upper limit and a lower limit.